United Nations A/ES-10/576–S/2013/14

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
11 January 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 10 January 2013 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

At the start of this new year, I am compelled to convey again our serious concerns regarding the illegal Israeli settlement campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is gravely undermining the contiguity, unity and integrity of the land of the State of Palestine and threatening to make impossible the achievement of the two-State solution for peace on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. We are at a critical juncture and believe that Israel's continuing flagrant contempt for international law demands urgent attention and responsible action by the international community, aimed at compelling the occupying Power to end all such grave breaches and at salvaging the prospects for a peaceful solution.

It is to be recalled that throughout the month of December 2012, Israel, the occupying Power, declared the intention to proceed with plans for the construction of more than 6,000 more illegal settlement units in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, with specific intent to further colonize areas in and around Occupied East Jerusalem. These provocative announcements were followed by the confirmation on 21 December of the approval for construction of 2,612 units for the illegal settlement of "Givat Hamatos"; a decision on 25 December on the construction of another 1,200 units in the "Gilo" area in Bethlehem; and the issuance on 29 December of confiscation orders for 456 dunums of land in the village of Beit Iksam, north-west of Jerusalem, for the construction of a wall that would surround the village from all sides and cut it off from over 12,000 dunums of its agricultural land.

At the core of this unprecedented settlement escalation are plans for the establishment of illegal settlements in sensitive areas to the east and to the south of Occupied East Jerusalem, namely the so-called "E1" area and a hill area between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, confiscated for the illegal "Givat Hamatos" settlement,

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both of which are integral to the continuity and viability of the State of Palestine. These Israeli plans have been deliberately made as a direct provocation and punitive measure against the Palestinian people and their leadership following the achievement of non-member observer State status by Palestine at the United Nations on 29 November 2012, a wholly legitimate political and diplomatic undertaking that received the overwhelming support of the international community, consistent with its long-standing commitment to the two-State solution based on United Nations resolutions, the Madrid principles, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map.

Moreover, the decisions to move forward with such illegal, destructive plans, along with the already ongoing construction of settlements, so-called "outposts" and the Wall, have been made in total contempt of the will of the international community, which has repeatedly demanded the full cessation of settlement activities and called upon Israel to respect international law and relevant United Nations resolutions. In this regard, we again underscore that Israel's settlement construction and all other colonization measures in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, constitute grave breaches under article 49 (6) of the Fourth Geneva Convention and thus constitute war crimes, as also in accordance with article 85 (4) of the first additional protocol to the Geneva Conventions and article 8 (2) (b) (viii) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

In the recent period, the suffering of the Palestinian civilian population as a result of this insidious settlement campaign has also intensified owing to the consequences of the Wall unlawfully constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In addition to the confiscation of land, isolation of villages and towns, obstruction of access to schools, hospitals, markets and agricultural lands, obstruction of movement, and suffocation of economic development, the Wall's negative environmental impact has become even more starkly evident owing to the severe winter weather that has affected Palestine in recent days. For example, heavy rains have caused severe flooding and damage in areas like Qalqilya, a city of 42,000 people, which is completely surrounded by the Wall, which is blocking the natural drainage of water and causing the backup of sewage. Such degradation and exploitation of the environment in Palestine as a result of this illegal colonization campaign constitutes yet another violation of the rights of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation.

At this time, we must again draw attention to ongoing Israeli settler violence, destruction and terror against Palestinian civilians and properties in violation of international humanitarian and human rights law. Grave incidents during this period include the following:

(a) On 13 December 2012, armed Israeli settlers severely beat several Palestinian children in the Tel al-Rumeda area in central Al-Khalil;

(b) On 31 December 2012, dozens of Israeli settlers raided the village of Qusra, near Nablus, uprooting more than 190 olive trees, assaulting Palestinians and causing damage to homes and vehicles. That same day, settlers raided the village of Beit Ummar, near Al-Khalil, burning a car and tractor and vandalizing buildings with graffiti such as "A good Arab is a dead Arab.";

(c) On 3 January 2013, Israeli settlers attacked the village of Jaiud, south of Nablus, stoning Palestinians, injuring a two-year-old boy and his father and uncle and damaging several homes;

(d) Today, 10 January 2013, Israeli settlers attacked Palestinians who were playing in the snow in the village of Urif, south of Nablus. A young man, 22-year-old Tarik Zedan Al-Safadi, was shot with live ammunition in the clashes that ensued with the settlers and the Israeli occupying forces;

(e) Also today, 10 January, settlers fired on Palestinians from the Qusra village, wounding Samer Masameer, a 26-year-old Palestinian man.

All of these serious issues are exacerbating the situation and tensions on the ground and, if neglected, will have far-reaching negative consequences on the potential for the realization of a peace agreement based on the vision of two States living side by side in peace and security in accordance with the pre-1967 borders and achieving genuine Palestinian-Israeli coexistence, central for the achievement of peace in the Middle East. The Security Council in particular is duty-bound by the Charter of the United Nations to address such matters relevant to international peace and security and must act to hold Israel, the occupying Power, responsible for its violations and to preserve and advance the possibility of peace.

The Palestinian leadership remains committed to the path of peace and to the two-State solution and reiterates that the time is long overdue for the Security Council to reaffirm its relevant resolutions and pronounce itself once again in rejection of Israel's illegal settlement campaign at this critical crossroads that will determine the viability of the two-State solution and the path forward. A clear, firm message must be sent to Israel, the occupying Power, that its illegal policies must be ceased forthwith and that it must commit to peace or that it will be held accountable. The obstruction of peace must no longer be tolerated. Instead, all efforts must be focused on creating the appropriate atmosphere for the launching of a substantive, meaningful peace process aimed at bringing an end to the occupation, achieving the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and achieving a just and permanent solution to the conflict in all its aspects.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 448 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 18 December 2012 (A/67/645-S/2012/942) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/577–S/2013/23

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
16 January 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 15 January 2013 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In follow-up to my previous letters, the most recent of which was conveyed on 10 January 2013, I write to draw your attention to the critical situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine and that has been under Israeli military occupation for more than 45 years. Israel's illegal policies and practices continue to inflict loss of life, loss of property and suffering on the Palestinian civilian population, a population whose human rights are undeniably being systematically and grossly violated by the occupying Power, with many of those violations amounting to war crimes.

In recent days, several young Palestinians have lost their lives to the brutality of the occupation as Israeli soldiers continue to use excessive force, including live ammunition against civilians, unarmed and defenceless, including those engaging in protest against the occupying Power. Today, 15 January, a Palestinian boy, Samir Ahmad Abdulrahim Awad, age 17, was killed by Israeli occupying forces in the village of Budrus. He died after sustaining four bullet wounds to the head, chest and leg when occupying forces shot at him and several other youths who were protesting an Israeli raid near the village high school in an area nearby the Wall, which has been built by the occupying Power on the village's land and against which the Palestinian residents of Budrus have been peacefully and non-violently demonstrating for years now, at great peril and cost to civilian lives, with several deaths and injuries endured owing to Israel's excessive use of force.

Two young Palestinian men were also recently killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Gaza Strip, near the border area, where three Palestinians have been killed and at least 30 others wounded since the ceasefire that was concluded following the Israeli military aggression in November 2012. On Friday, 11 January, Israeli soldiers shot and killed Anwar Muhammad Al-Mamlouk, age 22, in an area east of the Jabaliya refugee camp. This was followed by the killing yesterday,

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14 January, of Mustafa Abu Jarad, age 21, in the town of Beit Lahiya. The killing of these civilians constitutes a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the human right to life, and underscores the need to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to respect international humanitarian and human rights law with a view to protecting and ensuring the safety and well-being of the Palestinian civilian population under its occupation.

Today, I must also draw your attention to recent developments on the ground in connection with Israel's provocative declaration of the intention to proceed with illegal plans for the construction of more than 3,000 settlement units in the so-called "E1" area east of Occupied East Jerusalem, an area of confiscated Palestinian land covering 4.6 square miles in the centre of the West Bank. We have repeatedly drawn the international community's attention to this critical matter and continue to urge serious action, including by the Security Council, to pressure the occupying Power to rescind this decision and to cease all settlement activities throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

On Friday, 11 January, more than 200 Palestinian activists from across Palestine gathered at the "E1" area in a non-violent demonstration against the occupation and specifically against Israel's destructive, illegal settlement colonization of Palestinian land. There, the activists erected tents and established the "Bab Al-Shams" (Gate of the Sun) village. The statement released by the activists in conjunction with this popular act of resistance underscores the peaceful and non-violent nature of their actions, based on international legal rules and principles affirming, inter alia, the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and freedom and the right to defend their land against the usurpation by the occupying Power. In this regard, the activists declared, inter alia, "For decades, Israel has established facts on the ground as the international community remained silent in response to these violations. The time has come now to change the rules of the game, for us to establish facts on the ground — our own land."

Regrettably, Israel responded to this legitimate act of non-violent, political protest with typical heavy-handed force and arrogance, deploying occupying forces to evict the activists from the area. The Israeli soldiers used force to remove the demonstrators, with some sustaining injuries as a result. This was followed by provocative announcements by Israeli officials, including the Prime Minister, who declared, "We will not let anyone block the continuum between Jerusalem and 'Maale Adumim'". It is imperative to note here that "Maale Adumim" is an Israeli settlement that has been established in the Occupied Palestinian Territory by Israel in wilful and grave breach of international law, i.e., constituting a war crime. Similarly, today, 15 January, when dozens of other Palestinian demonstrators tried to return to "Bab Al-Shams", the occupying forces forcibly obstructed them from accessing the area and arrested several civilians. Here, we echo the calls, including those made by Your Excellency, for respect for the right of the Palestinian people to peaceful protest.

We caution the international community once again about the dangers of the prevailing situation, and we urge serious, collective action, foremost by the Security Council, to address these ongoing violations of the rights of the Palestinian people and the constant colonization of their land by Israel, the occupying Power. An unequivocal demand must be made to Israel to cease, fully and immediately, all of its settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The international community must find the political will to address this

critical situation to compel Israel to halt its settlement campaign and abide by international law. The viability of the State of Palestine and the political and physical prospects for achieving the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders are dependent on this.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 449 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 10 January 2013 (A/ES-10/576-S/2013/14) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/578–S/2013/32

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 January 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 18 January 2013 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have written on numerous occasions to draw international attention to the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine. In each letter, the most recent of which was conveyed on 15 January 2013, we have underscored our serious concerns about the grave breaches of international humanitarian and human rights laws being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, including its campaign of settlement colonization, which are destabilizing the situation and destroying the potential for peace.

In each letter, we have called on the international community, especially the Security Council, to uphold their obligations to respect and ensure respect for international law and to determine the necessary measures to compel Israel to end its war crimes and to salvage the prospects for peace. Regrettably, the Security Council remains in deadlock despite the clear consensus of positions on both the illegality of Israel's policies and practices against the Palestinian people and the urgent need to advance the two-State solution as the most viable solution to resolve this decades-long conflict.

Here, it is imperative to highlight the fact of the international consensus that Israel's illegal settlement policies specifically constitute the main threat to the vision of two States, Palestine and Israel, living side by side in peace and security based on the pre-1967 borders, the main obstacle to a credible peace process, and a main source of instability, tension and mistrust. It is high time to act on this consensus to end the oppression, dispossession and denial of the rights of the Palestinian people and to usher in a long-awaited era of peace and stability.

Yet again, Israel has announced plans to construct another 198 illegal settlement units in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. These plans, which come on the heels of recent provocative declarations regarding intentions to construct thousands of settlement units, include 84 units in the ultra-extremist illegal

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settlement of "Kiryat Arba" in Al-Khalil and 114 units in the illegal settlement of "Efrat", in grave contravention of all legal norms, including international humanitarian law, Security Council resolutions and the road map obligation to freeze all settlement activities.

Today, hundreds of Palestinians engaged once again in peaceful, popular resistance against and defiance of the occupation's illegal colonization practices as they gathered in Beit Iksa, north-west of Occupied East Jerusalem, to protest the Israeli confiscation of the village's land. This demonstration follows the establishment on 11 January of the Bab Al-Shams village in the so-called "E1" area as a means of non-violent civil protest against Israel's plans to illegally establish a settlement there, which would sever the State of Palestine's contiguity and viability. Regrettably, following the forced removal of the peaceful demonstrators there, Israel continues to obstruct Palestinian access to the area. Nevertheless, in the same spirit of Bab Al-Shams, the activists in Beit Iksa set up a tent village, naming it Al-Karamah (Dignity), in protest of the land confiscation and the plans to encircle and isolate the village through Israel's annexation wall, a critical matter I raised in my letter of 10 January. In a statement made by one of the activists, it was stressed that the protest was intended, inter alia, to send "a message to Israel and all democratic societies that we are human and we want peace ... we are looking for a life without checkpoints, walls and settlements". Also today, a peaceful demonstration was held in the village of Izbat Al-Tabib in the Qalqilya area to protest the Israeli plans to demolish a school in the village.

In that connection, during this period Israel has persisted with its destruction of Palestinian properties. On 14 January, Israeli occupying forces demolished four Palestinian homes in the southern hills of Al-Khalil, including a home in the Um Al-Khair village belonging to Shuaib Hathaleen, a Palestine refugee, who has been unable to speak since suffering a stroke, resulting in the displacement of eight people, among them four children. The occupying forces also destroyed the home of a shepherd, Ziad Makhmari, in the area of Shakia, and the homes of Waleed Saljbor and Mohammad Ali Issa Atayet, rendering another 15 people homeless, in the midst of a severe winter.

The following day, on 15 January, Israeli occupying forces demolished the home of Nasser Rajabi, in an area north of Beit Hanina, where he had lived with his wife and six children. On the same day, a two-storey home in the town of Sur Baher, belonging to Aref Amera, age 71, and housing seven families, was destroyed by Israeli occupying forces. On 17 January, the occupying forces also continued their harassment of Bedouin families and destruction of their properties, demolishing around 70 Palestinian structures, including residential sheds and animal barns, belonging to 12 Palestinian families in Wadi Al-Maleh in the northern Jordan Valley.

At the same time, Israeli settlers continue their terror and rampage against Palestinian civilians and their properties in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. On 13 January, an Israeli settler ran over Ali Jahalin, age 7, on his way to school in Abu Dis in the area of Occupied East Jerusalem, and the child was taken to hospital in critical condition. This settler practice of running over Palestinian children has become quite common, and the fears it has raised have now caused many Palestinian families to refuse to let their children travel to and from school unaccompanied.

This deplorable incident was followed on 15 January by a group of settlers setting up an illegal settlement on land belonging to a Palestinian family from the

town of Tuqu, east of Bethlehem. The settlers, under the protection of Israeli soldiers, attacked the family, injuring many and forcing the Palestinian owners to leave their land. In similar provocative actions, on 16 January, Israeli setters began to raze land to expand the illegal "Maskiyot" settlement in the northern Jordan Valley and the "Elon Moreh" settlement north-east of Nablus.

On 17 January, Israeli settlers uprooted 95 olive trees in the Hussan village, west of Bethlehem, belonging to two Palestinian families. This was preceded on 11 January by the destruction of more than 200 olive trees in the village of Qusra, near Nablus. This village, like so many others in the Nablus area, has been subjected to frequent violent attacks by extremist settlers from nearby illegal settlements as well as so-called "outposts". The Israeli Government continues to allow the perpetrators of these crimes to go unpunished, bolstering their sense of impunity and fostering such lawlessness.

As the international community continues to witness these relentless Israeli violations of the human rights and dignity of the Palestinian people, we must recall that many of these violations also constitute war crimes for which Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable. Without accountability, the prospects for reining in such illegal behaviour will remain remote, with far-reaching consequences for the objectives of attaining peace and security.

The Palestinian leadership remains committed to the path of peace and the two-State solution, recalling the significance of the compromise of accepting only 22 per cent of historic Palestine, a compromise made in the context of the international vision for a just peace and stability in our region. We thus continue to call on the international community, particularly the Security Council, in accordance with its duties under the Charter of the United Nations, to uphold their commitment to this vision and to act urgently and tangibly to ensure respect for the rule of law, including United Nations resolutions, to halt the deterioration of the situation and to salvage the two-State solution and the prospects for peace.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 450 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 15 January 2013 (A/ES-10/577-S/2012/23), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer
of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/579–S/2013/52

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 January 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 24 January 2013 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am compelled to again draw your attention to the critical human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem — the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine — owing to ongoing illegal and brutal practices by Israel, the occupying Power. In tandem with its incessant violation of international humanitarian law, particularly through its insidious campaign of settlement colonization of the Palestinian land, Israel is systematically and grossly violating the human rights of the Palestinian people, in all aspects and on a daily basis.

In the recent period, excessive use of force and brutality by the Israeli occupying forces, such as the use of live ammunition, including against civilian protesters, has resulted in the deaths of several Palestinian civilians, including children, dozens of injuries and suffering for more Palestinian families. Here, we recall the necessity of ensuring the protection of civilian persons in armed conflict and we demand protection for the Palestinian people, whose well-being, safety and lives are under constant threat under Israeli occupation.

This week, the Hanash and Al-Amarin families from the Bethlehem area are mourning losses at the hands of the occupying Power. Saleh Al-Amarin, age 15, died yesterday after being shot in the head by the Israeli occupying forces on 18 January 2013 in Bethlehem when he and several other youths used stones to confront the occupying forces who had raided the area. Lubna Hanash, age 22, from Bethlehem, was murdered by the occupying forces yesterday, 23 January, as she walked with a friend near Al-Arroub College in an area near Al-Khalil. Lubna was shot in the head in broad daylight by Israeli soldiers who fired from a civilian car at her and the woman with whom she was walking, Suad Jaara, age 28. Suad was also shot but survived her injuries. Despite claims by the occupying Power, there were no incidents taking place at the time that this innocent woman's life was so brutally taken. Her killing, like the killing of so many other Palestinian civilians before her,

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is yet another tragic reflection of the widespread disregard for Palestinian life by the Israeli occupying forces, who routinely denigrate the humanity of, and callously brutalize, the Palestinian civilian population living under their occupation and subjugation.

In this regard, also yesterday, a 17-year-old boy, Adnan Hassan, was beaten and cursed at by Israeli soldiers at the Huwwara checkpoint south of Nablus. The boy, from the village of Kafr Qaddum, near Qalqilya, was yelled at by the soldiers as they beat him in retaliation, they said, for the weekly demonstrations that take place in his village against the Wall and the settlements. Such repugnant behaviour by the occupying forces, which is regrettably common, proves yet again the total lack of tolerance by Israel, the occupying Power, for any expressions of peaceful, non-violent protest and resistance to its illegal policies of aggression, colonization and oppression of the Palestinian people.

Further, in this connection I must also convey our serious concerns regarding the plight of the more than 4,500 Palestinian civilians who remain captive in Israeli jails and detention centres. These Palestinians, who include children and women, are being imprisoned in squalid conditions and subjected to all forms of physical and psychological mistreatment, including beatings, humiliation, forced interrogations, threats, sleep deprivation, solitary confinement and other forms of torture. Israel, the occupying Power, also continues its denial of proper medical care, denial of family visits for prisoners and denial of due process of law, as well as its arbitrary detention of hundreds of Palestinians without charge. In protest at such inhumane, illegal treatment by the occupying Power, many Palestinian prisoners and detainees have undertaken hunger strikes. We recall in this regard the massive hunger strike undertaken in the spring of last year.

Today, we draw attention to the grave condition of three prisoners on hunger strike whose well-being and very lives are at stake. Samer Al-Issawi, who has been on hunger strike for 182 days, is in critical condition and suffering from multiple health problems as he continues to protest against his unlawful detention without charge by Israel after his release as part of the prisoner exchange concluded in late 2011. Ayman Sharawna, who had previously undertaken a 162-day hunger strike that left him in a state of compromised health, has resumed his hunger strike, also in protest at his unlawful detention, after he was rearrested by the occupying Power soon after his release as part of the above-mentioned prisoner exchange. Also on hunger strike is Tareq Hussein Awad Qedan, who has been on strike for 52 days, demanding his release so that he can care for his ill son, 4-year-old Khalid, who is suffering from muscular dystrophy, for which lifesaving treatment is unavailable in Palestine, requiring him to travel abroad.

We call for international attention to the plight of these Palestinian prisoners and for pressure to be exerted on Israel, the occupying Power, to release them immediately for the sake of saving their lives and ending the suffering inflicted on them and their families. Moreover, we call for international attention to the plight of all Palestinians, including in particular hundreds of children, who continue to be imprisoned by Israel, the occupying Power. The international community, including all relevant organs of the United Nations, must demand that Israel respect international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in its treatment of all Palestinian prisoners and detainees and allow for international monitoring of their conditions. Moreover, we reiterate our call for the occupying Power to

immediately release all of our prisoners and detainees and to allow for their return to their families and reintegration into their communities.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 451 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 18 January 2013 (A/ES-10/578-S/2013/32), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador, Permanent Observer
of the State of Palestine to the United Nations